A Publication of Communication Channels, Inc

SEPTEMBER 1984

AMERICAN CITY & COUNTY

administration • engineering • operations

75 Years of the Best of American City & County

An Historical Review of Local Government in America

A Publication of Communication Channels, Inc

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BPA

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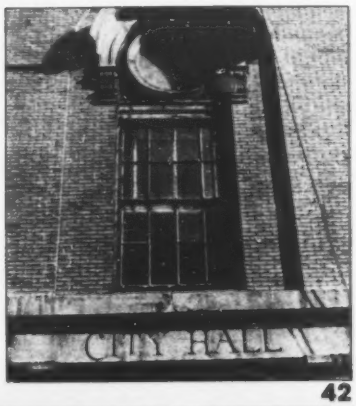

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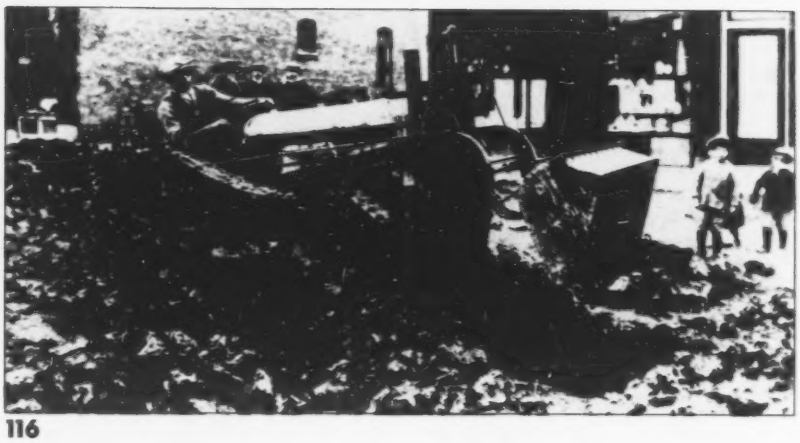

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1909 - 1984
75th
Anniversary

About the Cover

Seventy-five years ago, two men of vision published the first issue of a magazine they called *The American City*. Their goal was to produce a publication that would serve as the voice and conscience of local governments. This special issue commemorates those 75 years with reprints of some of the best articles that have appeared on these pages during the nearly eight decades we have served the needs of local governments.

MUNICIPAL COST INDEXES

The **Municipal Cost Index** rose 0.1 percent for the month to 332.2. The slight increase was due to a 0.1 percent decrease in the **Producer Price Index**, no change in the **ACC Construction Cost Index**, and a 0.3 percent increase in the **Consumer Price Index**.

Commodities with the largest decreases in this month's marketbasket include asphalt roofing, books, coal, footwear, liquified petroleum gas, lumber and portland cement. Commodities with the largest increases include diesel fuel, electric power, fuel oil, glass containers and wiring devices.

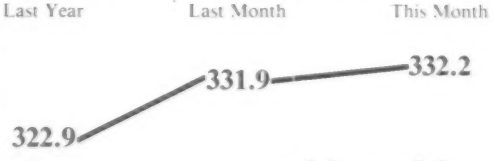
Compiled by Jeff Atkinson

THIS MONTH'S MARKETBASKET

	Current Index	Percent Change From: Last Month	Last Year
Air Conditioners	144.3	−0.1	1.0
Apparel	200.7	−0.2	1.4
Asphalt Roofing	392.3	−1.1	3.3
Books	125.7	−0.6	3.7
Chemicals, Industrial	345.5	0.2	2.1
Coal	543.3	−0.7	1.7
Concrete Products	310.0	0.1	2.8
Construction Machinery	358.1	0.1	1.6
Diesel Fuel	691.1	1.3	1.4
Electric Components	191.9	0.4	5.7
Electric Lamps	342.0	0.1	10.1
Electric Power	446.5	3.0	6.5
Engines, I.C.	344.5	−0.1	0.2
Fans, Blowers	350.3	1.1	3.8
Fertilizers, Mixed	269.3	−0.2	3.7
Floor Coverings	191.6	0.3	5.6
Flow Instruments	100.6	0.0	N/A
Footwear	250.3	−0.6	0.2
Foundry Products	360.6	0.3	2.6
Fuel Oil No. 2	740.5	1.6	1.9
Furniture, Commercial	297.0	−0.2	3.5
Gasoline	584.9	−0.2	−4.5
Generator Sets	340.2	0.1	5.2
Glass	227.3	0.4	−1.0
Glass Containers	366.0	1.3	4.0
Gypsum Products	360.3	−0.2	31.6
Hardware	295.0	0.3	1.2
Heating Equipment	251.3	−0.5	3.4
HVAC Controls	119.8	0.0	−0.4
LP Gas	646.1	−0.6	−9.4
Lubricants	370.0	0.7	6.0
Lumber	351.5	−1.2	N/A
Metal Fabrications	311.1	0.2	3.0
Millwork	305.2	−0.1	3.5
Motor Vehicle Parts	353.0	0.0	0.1
Mowers	257.1	−0.3	2.3
Natural Gas	1426.1	0.8	−0.9
Office Machines	154.4	0.0	0.3
Paint	270.8	1.0	2.3
Paper	301.4	0.0	7.8
Passenger Cars	220.9	−0.2	1.7
Plumbing Fixtures	302.0	0.1	3.9
Plywood	236.3	0.4	−7.5
Portland Cement	353.2	−1.1	3.6
Pumps	349.4	0.3	0.5
Residual Fuel	1150.1	0.6	11.2
Sand, Gravel	295.7	0.6	4.3
Sanitary Papers	362.9	−0.2	1.9
Soaps, Detergents	264.5	0.2	0.6
Sporting Goods	205.4	−0.3	0.4
Steel Mill Products	365.4	0.1	4.4
Struc. Clay Products	285.6	0.2	1.5
Switchgear	273.5	0.3	0.6
Tires, Tubes	243.5	−0.4	−0.1
Transformers	227.4	0.2	1.4
Trucks	334.7	0.0	7.0
Valves	102.0	0.0	1.9
Wire, Cable	203.4	0.2	−0.9
Wiring Devices	356.5	1.6	5.7

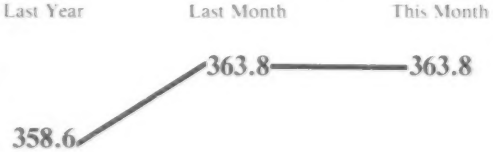
At-A-Glance Changes

ACC MUNICIPAL COST INDEX



Percent Change From Last: Month **0.1** Year **2.9**

ACC CONSTRUCTION COST INDEX



Percent Change From Last: Month **0.0** Year **1.5**

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BLS)

Percent Change From Last: Month **0.3** Year **4.2**

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX (BLS)

Percent Change From Last: Month **−0.1** Year **3.0**

QUARTERLY MUNICIPAL TRENDS

	Current Level	Percent Change From: Last Qtr.	Last Year
Receipts	514.3B	2.7	11.4
Federal Grants	90.4B	0.1	5.4
Durable Purchases	15.1B	2.7	8.6
Consumables	34.1B	0.3	10.7
Services	344.9B	2.1	7.8
Structures	41.5B	6.1	5.1
Salaries, Wages	252.3B	2.1	7.9
Surplus	60.9B	4.8	50.7
Employment	12.992M	−0.1	0.1